

SOME CHANGES IN NOMENCLATURE.

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In a previous paper¹ the writer proposed some changes in nomenclature found necessary in a study of the flora of Central New York. The following cases have been brought to his attention since that time.

SAGITTARIA LATIFOLIA Willd., var. **obtusa** (Muhl.) comb. nov. *S. obtusa* Muhl. in Willd. Sp. Pl. iv. 409 (1805). *S. variabilis*, var. *obtusa* Engelm. in Gray's Man. ed. 2, 439 (1856). *S. latifolia*, forma *obtusa* Robinson, RHODORA x. 31. (1908).—This is the most distinct of the forms of *S. latifolia* found in New York State. The great variation in foliage in this species is chiefly a response to fluctuations in environment, but in var. *obtusa* the obtuse leaf apex and the generally dioecious flowers as well as the rather definite range suggest a more racial difference.

ARMORACIA aquatica (Eaton) comb. nov. *Cochlearia aquatica* Eaton, Man. ed. 5. 181 (1829). *Nasturtium natans* var. *americanum* Gray, Ann. Lyc. N. Y., iii. 223 (1836). *N. lacustre* Gray, Gen. Ill. i. 132 (1849). *Roripa americana* Britton, Mem. Torr. Bot. cl. v. 169 (1894). *Neobeckia aquatica* Greene, Pittonia iii. 95 (1896). *Radicula aquatica* Robinson, RHODORA x. 32 (1908).—The comprehensive genus *Roripa* or *Radicula* contains units which apparently are as distinct from one another as are many generally recognized genera in the *Cruciferae*. On this basis *Roripa* (Yellow Cresses), *Nasturtium* (Water Cress) and *Armoracia* (Horse-radish) should be treated as separate genera. The present species is evidently congeneric with the horse-radish as shown by the stature, size of flowers, shape of pod, and especially by the dissected submerged leaves. The elongated style and partial or complete absence of the septum in the pod do not seem sufficient to warrant the separation of this species as a separate genus in face of the resemblances just stated. These differences are largely variations in degree only. More essential differences are allowed in *Lepidum*, for instance, where incumbent and accumbent cotyledons occur in the same genus without leading to the division of the genus into two. Variations in length of style occur in *Draba*, *Brassica* and other genera.

¹ RHODORA xxvi. 1 (1924).

POLYGONUM MUHLENBERGII (Meisn.) Watson, forma NATANS Wiegand, RHODORA xxvi. 3 (1924).—In the original publication of this form a rather serious error must be noted. The type specimen cited was Moscow, Washington [Idaho], *W. C. Muenscher*, no. 129. It appears that the western *P. amphibium* often resembles the above forma *natans* in foliage, and the Moscow specimen should be referred to that species. The two species are fairly distinct in width of spike and color of flowers, and less constantly in glandularity of the peduncles and type of cauline and foliar pubescence. The type of *f. natans* may be restated as: "Pool near Fleming School House, Ithaca, N. Y." *K. M. Wiegand & C. C. Thomas*, no. 2234 (in Cornell Univ. Herb.).

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ASTER PUNICEUS L., var. FIRMUS (Nees) T. & G., forma **rufescens**, n. f., caulibus involucrisque austeris purpureis; foliis supra rubidis infra viridibus; caulibus sparse puberulis praesertim supra.

Stems and involucres dark purplish-red: leaves dark red above, green beneath: stems sparsely puberulent, especially above.—QUEBEC: Cap-Rouge, près du Pont de Québec. Zone atteinte par la marée, 29 août, *M.-Victorin*, no. 15401 (TYPE in Gray Herb. and Herb. University of Montreal).

Brother Victorin tells me that in a large patch of this *Aster* inundated twice a day by the tide, the leaves were consistently dark red on their upper surfaces.—NORMAN C. FASSETT.

THE NEW ENGLAND-ACADIAN SHORELINE.—Although primarily a scholarly and clearly stated presentation of the physiographic (and geological) history of the coast from New England to the lower St. Lawrence, Professor Douglas Johnson's latest volume¹ is so attractively written, so beautifully illustrated and altogether so authoritative a study of the history of our own coast that all serious students of our flora and its history will wish to have the book at hand. In its interpretations of the history of the coast of eastern America

¹ THE NEW ENGLAND-ACADIAN SHORELINE, by Douglas Johnson. 628 pp. 273 figs. New York. John Wiley & Sons. \$8.50 net.